JAMES B. TRAGER, Ph.D.
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1308 Park Avenue
Alameda, California 94501
(510) 912-4022

Professional Experience

Senior Scientist, Quality Control June 2002 – present

- Designed and led pilot analytical and stability studies on GRN163, in support of a planned IND. Responsible for internal Quality Control test method development and qualification.
- Managed test method development and qualification projects contracted to raw material and API manufacturers, fill/finish vendors and analytical laboratories.
- Established and administered quality systems for Quality Control, materials management, and equipment calibration and maintenance.

Senior Scientist, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry 2001 – 2002

- Led a team that expressed and purified milligram quantities of secreted factors, to test for effects on stem cell differentiation.
- Established a protein-RNA interaction assay that identified a novel inhibitor of telomerase assembly, which is currently in pre-clinical development.

Staff Scientist II 1998 – 2001

- Lead scientist responsible for the expression and successful reconstitution of the RNA and protein components of a recombinant human telomerase.
- Developed a baculovirus expression system yielding milligram quantities of hTERT.
- Coordinated collaboration with researchers at Roche Biosciences in oncology diagnostics. Developed antigen purification protocols and identified antibodies for product development.

Staff Scientist I 1997 – 1998

- Pioneered affinity chromatography techniques and purified nanogram quantities of human telomerase for microsequencing.
- Constructed synthetic genes to express recombinant hTERT protein for antibody development and two-hybrid analysis.

Research Associate III 1995 – 1997

- Developed methods for rapid detection and quantitation of extremely rare structural RNA species; performed assays for tracking protein purification;.

Work History

1995-present	Senior Scientist	Geron Corp., Menlo Park, CA
1988-1995	Graduate Research Associate	UC Berkeley, Berkeley, CA
1986-1988	Laboratory Assistant	Hunter College, New York, NY
1984-1986	Peace Corps Volunteer	Central African Republic

Education

PhD Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, University of California at Berkeley 1994
Dissertation Advisor: G. Steven Martin

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Dissertation Title: Use of the budding yeast *S. cerevisiae* to analyze mechanisms of malignant transformation by the v-*src* oncogene

BA Philosophy, St. John's College, Santa Fe, New Mexico 1984

Publications

Taylor RD, Carlos R, Pruzan R, and Trager JB. (2002) A conserved structural element of the human telomerase RNA component mediates binding to the N-terminal RNA-binding domain of the catalytic protein subunit hTERT Manuscript in Preparation.

Trager JB, Osamu M, Ackerly H, Kwong M, Weinrich SL, Akira A, Yoshinori Y, Tamio M, and Hideharu A. (2001) Reconstitution of telomerase activity utilizing human catalytic subunit expressed in insect cells. Biochem Biophys Res Commun. 2002 Oct 18; 298(1): 144.

Holt SE, Aisner DL, Baur J, Tesmer VM, Dy M, Ouellette M, Trager JB, Morin GB, Toft DO, Shay JW, Wright WE, and White MA. (1999) Functional requirement of p23 and Hsp90 in telomerase complexes. Genes Dev 1999 Apr 1;13(7):817-26

Weinrich SL, Pruzan R, Ma L, Ouellette M, Tesmer VM, Holt SE, Bodnar AG, Lichtsteiner S, Kim NW, Trager JB, Taylor RD, Carlos R, Andrews WH, Wright WE, Shay JW, Harley CB, and Morin GB. (1997) Reconstitution of human telomerase with the template RNA component hTR and the catalytic protein subunit hTRT. Nat Genet 1997 Dec; 17(4):498-502

Trager, JB, and Martin, GS. (1997) Identification of yeast proteins whose phosphorylation at tyrosine correlates with growth inhibition. Int J Biochem Cell Biol Apr; 29(4): 635-48

Florio, M; Wilson, L; Trager, JB; Thorner, J; and Martin, GS. (1994) Aberrant protein phosphorylation at tyrosine is responsible for the growth-inhibitory action of pp60v-src expressed in yeast. Molecular Biology of the Cell 5(3): 283-296